

## ENDURANCE

As we move into late summer and early fall, this time of year is the heart of hurricane season. With Field Day accomplished, this time of year is also historically quiet for club activities, but that has changed.

The NPOTA 2016 event, our recent move from Red Cross to the Lafayette Science Museum, and tying up various loose ends, give us reason for getting together and accomplishing club goals. Additional activities coming up like the Tour Du Teche canoe race and Cajun Cup not far behind, means membership will be very busy and opportunities to participate will be numerous.

I want to thank everyone who volunteers to help the club achieve it's goals, but I also want to thank those whose efforts promote Amateur Radio not only associated with the AARA, but in the community, efforts both seen and unseen. It requires vision, planning, and effort, and most often are unsolicited, and are done for the love of our great hobby - Amateur Radio.

Mark  
W5GTI  
AARA President

## Children's Museum Antenna Takedown Party

9 JULY 2016

Larry KE5KJD

Several volunteers showed up on Saturday, July 9 to take down the antenna from the Children's Museum in Lafayette. Fortunately some brave souls had already taken the antenna down to roof



level, and all we had to do was disassemble the elements from the boom and lower them to ground level. Glen KF5FNP had the tools and the trailer to load up the antenna elements. We had more than enough help to get the job done. After the disassembly and loading up of the antenna, Paul N5KNY asked for volunteers to look over the new antenna purchased for the Science Museum, which will require assembly. The antenna was still in its

box, which we opened and removed the parts. We then began the evaluation of the work involved to put it together. Dave N4ELM took the lead in this along with Glen KF5FNP, Paul N5KNY, and Chuck KE5ZZM. After about a half hour, we concurred that we would do the assembly at another time, after getting documentation together and conferring with Force Antennas.

Those in the roof picture were David KG5JHR, Dave N4ELM, Glen KF5FNP, and Glenn KD5NVC.

Group picture on completion of antenna takedown, left to right are club members: Paul N5KNY, Al KE5UPM, Dave N4ELM, Danny KD5JSM, Glenn KD5NVC, Glen KF5FNP, Chuck KE5ZZM, and David KG5JHR. Larry KE5KJD was taking the pictures and is not in the photos.

Picture pondering the mast of the Force 12 antenna at the Science Museum are: Glen KF5FNP, Paul N5KNY, and Dave N4ELM.



Photos - KE5KJD and KD5NVC

## AUGUST 2016 AARA GENERAL MEETING

The AARA will hold it's August General Club meeting on August 4, 2016 at 7PM at the Lafayette Science Museum, on 433 Jefferson Street, Lafayette, LA. Enter through glass doors on South West side.

VE testing and Board Meeting at 6PM. See you there.

# AARA July General Meeting Minutes

7 JULY 2016

Ramona KG5HNO

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mark W5GTI. Opening prayer and Pledge of Allegiance in English and French was recited. This was the first meeting in our new location, the Lafayette Science Museum. We were welcomed by Mr. Kevin Krantz, the director of the Lafayette Science Museum. He let us know that as long as we wanted to meet there we were welcomed to do so.

New members and members who did not attend last meeting, introduced themselves to the other members.

Mark W5GTI gave the Treasurer's Report in the absence of Tom W5OHJ. Members voted to accept the Treasurer's report. The minutes of the June meeting as published in the LARC were also accepted.

## OLD BUSINESS

A presentation was given by Larry KE5KJD, assisted by Herman KN5GRK about how we earned points for Field Day. Approximately 38 people worked to help put on Field Day at the Horse Farm. Our group scored 1410 points in all and we made 1178 contacts during Field Day.

Big Boy Toys came out and did a video and took pictures of Field Day with a Drone. Mark asked that we fill out the Field Day Critique form (emailed to all membership) on what we liked and didn't like about Field Day and how we could improve it for next year. We had a lot of fun and had a few visitors come by the Information Table to ask questions about Ham Radio.

## NEW BUSINESS

We need to do an inventory on everything in the storage shed so we

know what we want to keep and what is to be auctioned. We will have a workday at Danny's KD5JSM, on July 30.

The AARA will activate HP-17 for National Parks On The Air in Eunice, LA on July 23 from 8 to 3. This will be a GO KIT day. AMOS II will not be used for this event.

We have been invited to speak at the Breaux Bridge City Council meeting, Tuesday August 9, 2016. This talk will inform the public as to how we handle emergency situations with Ham Radio. Those who would like to participate should contact Sandy KE5KJF. Larry and Sandy will serve coffee and dessert after the city council meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

## Louisiana ARES HF Nets

**3596 MHz Digital (USB)**

Sundays 00:00Z

**3873 MHz Voice (LSB)**

Sundays 00:30Z

## AARA OFFICERS 2016 - 2017

**President** - Mark Saltzman W5GTI  
w5gti@cox.net

**Vice Pres.** - Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD

**Secretary** - Ramona Jobe KG5HNO

**Treasurer** - Tom Dischler W5OHJ

### Board Members

Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP

Ric Wallace KF5KEL

Archie Hill W5AG

Kendra Wilson KF5FYS

### QSL MANAGER

Roland Guidry NA5Q

### PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Herman Campbell KN5GRK

337-234-5364 kn5grk@lusfiber.net

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Mark Saltzman W5GTI

**larc@w5ddl.org**

### AARA REPEATER GROUP

Charlie Morrison N5WE - Trustee

Derek Meche WM5TS

Dave Redfern N4ELM

Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP

### LCARC DELEGATES

Fred Marshall W5MLE

Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP

# AMATEUR RADIO TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASS

There will be a New Technician Training Class at the Lafayette Science Museum starting August 9, 2016 for eight weeks every Tuesday at 6:30 PM. Course materials will be \$20 and an FCC Testing Fee of \$15 at the time of testing.

For more information contact Kevin Krantz at: **kkrantz@lafayettela.gov** or **337-291-5448**.



# STUFF



## Things to have in your Shack

Quite often after a new Amateur Radio Operator gets their license and makes that radio purchase they set up their station and get on the air and everything is great, or not. Some soon find that the resources required to maintain a functional station are not at their ready. Certainly we have ALL been at this point in the hobby and what is to follow is just a small list of items found to be of great benefit when operating and maintaining your Amateur Radio station.



TAPE

Most of the basic items you should have for your station are probably already on hand, like screwdrivers, pliers, wire cutters, electrical tape, string or small diameter rope, hobby knife, and hammer (tool of last resort). If you don't already have these items, pick them up during your next visit to the hardware store.

Now that the some of the basics are covered, lets move on to some of the Not-So-Common items.

### PL-259/SO-239

At some point, as you are setting up and maintaining your station, you will have a need to install or change out one of your connectors. The PL-259 and SO-239 are the industry standard for HF and are readily available on-line, at your local electronics supply, and at every hamfest you will attend. Don't forget the proper reducer for your coax if required.



PL-259



SO-239

### MULTIMETER

Multimeters are a terrific tool to have for basic checks of voltage

and resistance, two factors that are crucial to a properly functioning station. They come in different sizes and price ranges, but all will perform readings that will lead you in the right direction. They can be used in many applications and can be of great benefit when building or troubleshooting wire antenna feedpoints, BEFORE you raise it and BEFORE you lower it, saving you a lot of time in either direction.



### SOLDERING IRON or GUN

Not every Amateur Radio Operator has the skill to solder, but with a little instruction and some practice you can do it. A standard 25-30W iron will handle just about all of your soldering needs, but sometimes you need a little more heat, which is where the Soldering Gun helps out. However, soldering guns operate above 100w and can damage insulators and small items without the proper technique. A Soldering Station may be more beneficial, due to their adjustable settings for each job.



25-



### COAXIAL SEAL

Coaxial Seal looks alot like electrical tape but seals much better than adhesives on electrical tapes. It is made of compounds that actually FUSE together when rolled upon itself, creating a weatherproof seal. This is great for nicks or cuts in the



outer insulation of coax and when sealing an exterior PL-259/SO-239 connection, keeping the elements OUT and the RF IN.

### DUMMY LOAD

It's not for dummies. A dummy load will give you that 50Ω reference you need when checking your gear. Not only will it help provide a nice load for your transmitter, but can be used as a reference for testing coax or your Antenna Tuner. These can be found new and used and have a heatsink (wet or dry). Just make certain you get a dummy load that is rated for the frequencies and power you are using.



MFJ-260B



MFJ-250

### SWR/WATTMETER

For the health of your transmitter, an SWR/Wattmeter is a MUST. Before you operate your transmitter, you should know what it sees electrically. SWR that is too high can reduce your signals effectiveness and more importantly, can DAMAGE your transmitter. Most of the modern rigs have an SWR meter and power reduction built-in and can be used for troubleshooting an issue. An external SWR/Wattmeter can be a valuable asset in-line at all times if your radio does not have this feature or if you are using your rig's meter to monitor Power or ALC.



DIAWA 801



# AARA Activates HP-17 in Eunice for NPOTA

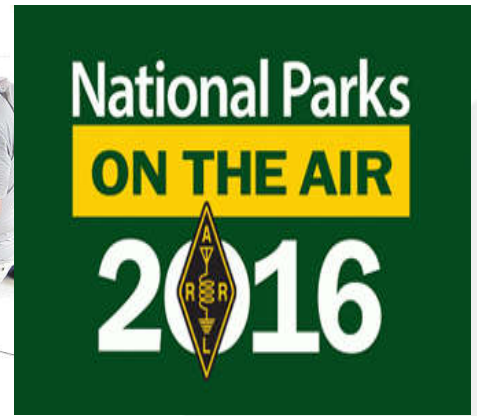
23 JULY 2016

Larry KE5KJD

On July 23 the AARA club activated National Parks on the Air HP17 for the second time this year. The activity was conducted at the Jean Lafitte Cultural Center in Eunice, Louisiana. This is in downtown Eunice on Park Avenue. We were



Bob KG5AYK operating 20M



Park Ranger Angelle Ballard and Glen KF5FNP

greeted and helped out by park rangers Jeremy Wirtz and Angelle Ballard who did all they could to make us feel at home and provide us with power and a very much appreciated fan. They even picked up water for our group so we could stay on the radio.

Those participating were Dave N4ELM, operating a portable station on 17, 30, and 40 meters CW, Tom W5OHJ, the lead operator on the 20 meter station, along with other operators Glen KF5FNP, Bob KG5AYK, Joy KG5MKV, and Larry KE5KJD. Paul N5KNY, operated his new and innovative GO KIT on 40 meters. I am sure that he will be showing this kit at every opportunity. Tom's wife Dee came by to offer



Dave N4ELM operation 40M CW



Dave N4ELM and Glen KF5FNP on 20M

us a little moral support and check to make sure Tom was taking care of himself. All antennas were light and portable, with two verticals and one inverted V dipole strung from the flagpole. We did try a small beam on 20 meters, but it did not have a significant effect on the noise or signals. We did have company in a friendly cat, that hung out with us during the day. Have a look at the photos to see the equipment setups and operators.

It was a very warm day and we operated in the shade. Band conditions on all bands were very noisy, with the noise level on 20 meters running from S7 to S8. Also, propagation on that day was up and down most of the day.

Some QSO's faded out completely during the exchange. We were told by some of the contacts that there were many people trying to contact us that we could not hear. There were sporadic openings with Q5 copy every half hour or so. The best advice for the day was to keep your "line in the water" if you wanted to catch the contacts. We were able to log about 203 contacts from about 9 am to 3 pm. This covered the country with about 38 states contacted.



Park Ranger Jeremy Wirtz

The cultural center has exhibits spotlighting Cajun Culture and is very well done and historically accurate. This is from one of us who was there in the forties and fifties. They also host special events during the week that draws visitors from around the country. They also host classes for children and demos of the Cajun culture, from music to food.

We did have some visitors chat with the group and we also made a short verbal presentation to the children and parents working on a "Louisiana Birds" art project. We also had a few hams stop by, including Ken Johnson KJ4AVF, who attempted to have his wife Pat KJ4AVE, contact us from Florida.



Bob KG5AYK and Tom W5OHJ operating 20M

She was heard on the air, but not good enough to copy. All in all, we had a good time and will look forward to the next NPOTA activation.



Bob KG5AYK and Ms. Joy KG5MKV operating 20M



Paul N5KNY operating 40M



Our MASCOT for the entire day

All Photos - KE5KJD



# National Radio Quiet Zone

## A Travel Log to Green Bank, West Virginia

Ingo KK6EWB

This summer we took our Silver Bullet, also known as an Air-stream travel trailer, on a road trip USA. Our two pooches always at our side, KK6EWB especially wanted to explore the NRAO National Radio Astronomy Observatory at the heart of the National Radio Quiet Zone, a 13,000 square mile region of the United States where radio signal interference is minimized. This was established in 1958 by the US Government. On arrival to the site in Green Bank, West Virginia, no cell phone service, Wifi,

Bluetooth, or digital cameras.

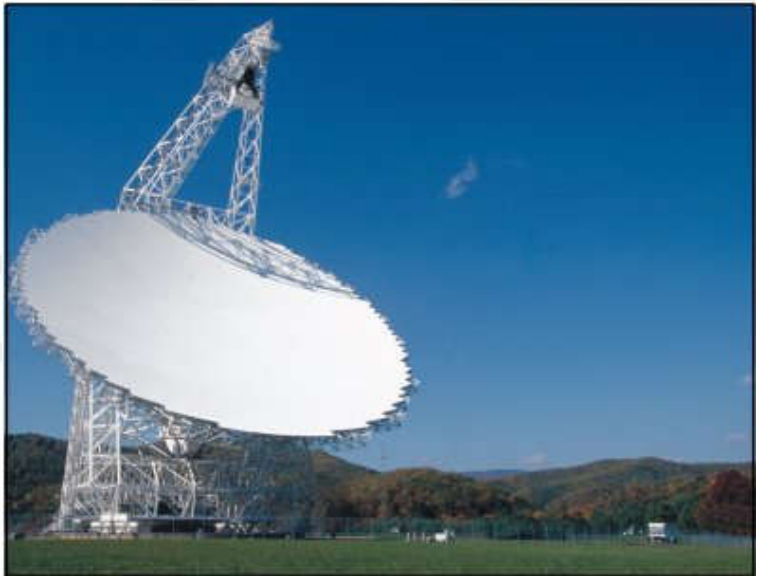


2.3 acres. At 100 meters by 110 meters, its collecting surface is larger than two football fields. The GBT Green Bank Telescope stands 485 feet tall and requires 7,652 beams to support it on top of a nearly hemispherical tilting gear. Based on solid concrete sunk 25 feet down to the Appalachian bedrock. 17 million pounds of telescope glide around in a 360-degree concrete track, to see 85% of the skies surrounding the earth over the course of a year. 60 feet above the dish, a secondary mirror aims the dish's focused radio waves into one of eight receivers hanging in a rotating turret. On the fly, a new receiver can be spun into the beam to change the frequency being recorded, giving astronomers from around the world science with just one telescope !!!

## Huge Range Of Science with Just One Telescope

The NRAO was founded in 1956 as the United States' first national science facility. The first radio telescope was an 85-foot kit antenna from Blaw-Knox Corporation. In the year 2000, Green Bank became home to the largest, fully steerable and

most accurate single dish radio telescope in the world. A humongous parabolic dish covering



## Scientists And Radio Waves: GPS Was Born Here

Especially for me as an amateur radio operator the use of radio telescopes is of the utmost fascination because of the never-ending study of naturally-occurring radio light from stars, galaxies, and other astronomical objects. In between Karl Jansky's discovery of cosmic radio waves and the end of WWII, a man called Grote Reber advanced the new science of Radio Astronomy. For a sense of history, the picture on the left shows the first successful receiver center frequency of 160 MHz from approx. 1942. My visit to the GBT was very educational and I recommend it highly to anybody being radio-active. Tucked away in a beautiful summer-green county with a population of only 8,000 country folks, they receive 40,000 visitors per year. Compare this with 18 million annually for Disneyland California alone.

**For more GBT information, visit [www.nrao.edu](http://www.nrao.edu) or call 304-456-2150.**



## Local VHF/UHF Nets

### Monday

AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM  
Repeater Rotation—Check Calendar

### Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM  
145.370 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

### Wednesday

Silent Key Memorial Net 7:00 PM  
145.410 Lydia, LA

### Thursday

Youth Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA



### Apply your hobby to Public Service

To find out more, contact an AARA member, and we will inform you of how you can help in times of emergency.

## VE Test Session

July 7, 2016

### Earning TECHNICIAN:

Morgan Joubert - Opelousas KG5OMQ  
Brad Fontenot - Washington KG5OMO  
Garrett McIntyre - Breaux Bridge KG5OMP

### Earning GENERAL:

Sarah Tesch - Youngsville KG5OMN

### Earning AMATEUR EXTRA:

Raymond Costello N5KIR - Lafayette  
Monica Gros KG5NLO - New Iberia

### VE's:

Greg K5LFT, John W4HVVH, Ric KF5KEL,  
Archie W5AG, and Galen KF5BET

73, de GREG K5LFT

## FCC AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE TESTING

VE Test sessions are held the 1st Thursday of every month at 6PM, before the AARA General Club meeting, at the Lafayette Science Museum on 433 Jefferson St., Lafayette, LA.

## National Parks ON THE AIR 2016

### National Parks on the Air

Throughout 2016, Amateur Radio will be helping the National Park Service celebrate their 100th anniversary. Hams from across the country will activate NPS units, promote the National Park Service and showcase Amateur Radio to the public.

This looks like another year long event. Should be fun!

See the website for rules and information at:

<http://www.arrrl.org/npota>

The AARA will participate in the National Parks On The Air event again with another Special Event. Date and location to be determined. Keep watch for upcoming information in your email and in the

LARC

## WANTED

### AARA Monday Night Net Manager/Controller

The AARA Monday Night Net will be available to any AARA member who wishes to be a Net Manager or Net Controller for the Monday Night Net starting January 2, 2017.

This can be done by one person or a group of people. The Net Manager would coordinate the Net for each Monday Night ensuring a Net Control is available to call the Net, maintain records of each Net, such as number of sessions, number of check-ins, total Net time, traffic total, and at the end of each month, submit this information for publication in the *LARC*. Only one Net Manager is required for the Net.

The Net Controller would conduct the Net each Monday Night, by taking check-ins, providing announcements and other amateur radio related information, and then provide totals of sessions, check-ins, time, and traffic to the Net Manager. There can be more than one Monday Night Net Controller. One of the Net Controllers can serve as Net Manager.

If you would like to participate in the continuation of the AARA Monday Night Net, please contact me for more information.

Mark  
W5GTI

## AARA STICKERS



The AARA has 2" x 3" vinyl stickers featuring the AARA Logo, available for purchase by club members. The stickers are \$2 each (no limit) and are available at each General Club meeting.



## JULY 2016 ACADIANA AREA VHF/UHF NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
AARA Monday Night Net	4	68	0	131	W5GTI Mark
Acadiana ARES Net	4	65	1	124	KN5GRK Herman
Silent Key Memorial Net	4	46	0	74	KG5HNO Ramona
Youth Net					KF5BEW Abbi KF5FYS Kendra

AARA Monday Night Net  
Repeater Rotation

DATE:	TIME:	REPEATER:	PL TONE:
AUG 1	7:00 PM	145.410 W5DDL/R	None
AUG 8	7:00 PM	145.370 KF5VH	***
AUG 15	7:00 PM	443.000 W5DDL	103.5
AUG 22	7:00 PM	147.040 W5EXI	103.5
AUG 29	7:00 PM	146.820 W5DDL	103.5

\*\*\* When using the 145.370 SkyWarn Repeater System, be sure to use the PL Tone for your area as follows:

Lafayette 103.5 - NW Quadrant 114.8 - NE Quadrant 127.3 - SW Quadrant 141.3 - SE Quadrant 94.8.

The monthly net schedule can be viewed, downloaded and printed in Adobe Acrobat .PDF from the club website at:

<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/files/calendar.pdf>

The top 10 check-ins for 2016 will have their callsign entered into a drawing for a new Dual Band HT.



8/5	ROY	NG5X
8/7	JACKIE	KF5PCH
8/8	BRUCE	N5FJB
8/9	GLEN	KF5FNP
8/12	ROBERT	KE5WZK
8/17	RANDY	KG5KFI
8/23	PAULA	KF5CNS
8/24	KAREN	KC5LJI
8/24	ESTHER	N5YOP
8/27	PHOEBE	KC5VRN
8/31	KARL	W5DHP
8/31	RODERICK	KG5BHW

***"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."***

- Benjamin Franklin

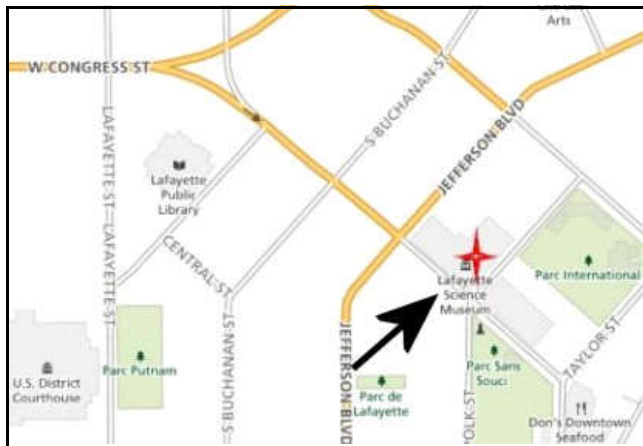
The **LARC** is published monthly by the:  
**ACADIANA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**

P. O. Box 51174  
Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Send all articles, photos, and Net Reports for publication in the **LARC** to  
**LARC@W5DDL.ORG**

ACADIANA AMATEUR RADIO  
ASSOCIATION, INC  
P. O. Box 51174  
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



COMPLIMENTARY  
ISSUE



## Grandma Maroni's Meatballs

[www.foodnetwork.com](http://www.foodnetwork.com)

### Ingredients:

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 1lb Ground Chuck       | 3oz Grated Spanish Onion                |
| 4oz Dried Bread Crumbs | 2oz Finely Diced Fresh Garlic           |
| 4 Large Eggs           | 2oz Finely Chopped Fresh Parsley leaves |
| 4oz Whole Milk         | 2oz Finely Chopped Fresh Basil leaves   |
| 6oz Grated Romano      |   |

### Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 350F. Spray a baking sheet with olive oil.
2. Mix all ingredients thoroughly in large bowl. If loose, add more bread crumbs.
3. Roll meat balls loosely (golf ball size) and place on baking sheet.
4. Place into preheated oven and bake for 35-40 minutes.
5. Enjoy

Send your favorite recipes to:  
[larc@w5ddl.org](mailto:larc@w5ddl.org)

## FCC Information Service

Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/vanity call signs: 888-225-5322. This will connect you the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:

[ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov).

FCC Website:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is:

Federal Communications Commission,  
1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg,  
PA 17325-7245